

S P E C I F I C A T I O N A M E N D M E N T S

Please **AMEND** the first paragraph on page 1 immediately following the title as follows:

The present application is a continuation application of commonly-owned, ~~co-pending~~ U.S. Patent Application No. 09/166,267, entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETERMINING A PROGRESSIVE DISCOUNT FOR A CUSTOMER BASED ON THE FREQUENCY OF THE CUSTOMER'S TRANSACTIONS", filed on October 5, 1998 and issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,687,679 B1 on February 3, 2004; which is a continuation-in-part application of commonly-owned, co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/049297, entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR TRACKING AND ESTABLISHING A PROGRESSIVE DISCOUNT BASED UPON A CUSTOMER'S VISITS TO A RETAIL ESTABLISHMENT" filed on March 27, 1998.

Please **AMEND** the heading on page 1, line 16 as follows:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Please **AMEND** the text on page 1, line 18 immediately following the heading **CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION** as follows:

The present application is related to ~~the following~~ commonly-owned, ~~co-pending~~ U.S. Patent Applications: ~~US Patent Application Serial No. 09/166,339~~, entitled METHOD AND APPRATUS FOR MAINTAINING A CUSTOMER DATABASE USING LICENSE PLATE SCANNING, filed on October 5, 1998, which issued as U.S. Patent Number 6,374,240 B1 on April 16, 2002, which is incorporated by reference herein as part of the present disclosure.

Please **AMEND** the second paragraph on page 10 as follows:

FIG. 3 illustrates a POS terminal 300, which is descriptive of another embodiment of any or all the POS terminals 110, 120, and 130 (FIG. 1). In the embodiment of FIG. 3 first device 305 communicates with a second device 310 via a remote communication link 315. The first device 305, which may be a cash register, comprises the clock 230, the printer 240, the input device 250, the display device 260, and a processor 340 which performs at least some of the functions of the processor 210 of Fig FIG. 2. The second device 310 may be, for example, a processing system operated by an electronic marketing service or credit card clearinghouse. The second device 310 comprises a data storage device 345, a printer 350, and a processor 355 which performs at least some of the functions of the processor 210 of Fig FIG. 2. In this embodiment, the first device 305 may be a cash register, and the second device 310 may be an electronic device for determining discounts in accordance with data received from the cash register. Other configurations of the POS terminal 300 will be understood by those skilled in the art.